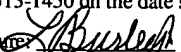


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER 038495456 US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.  
Date: February 5, 2004 Signature:  (Linda J. Burleigh)

Docket No.: 297912002103  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
William M. COLONE

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: RADIALLY EXPANDABLE  
POLYTETRAFLUOROETHYLENE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.